## **Health Director**

2014-2015

# A Message from the Health Director



Judith A. Halstead, MS Health Director

On behalf of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, I am pleased to share our 2015 Annual Report. During the past year, we have continued our hard work to improve the health of our community.

We are dealing with new and emerging diseases every year. We never expected to be monitoring to prevent the spread of Ebola. We are now providing information to the public and providers about Zika virus. As the world gets smaller and the potential of exposure to new health threats increases, the need to stay up to date on these emerging diseases becomes critical.

We completed our first comprehensive, department-wide Workforce Development survey and subsequent Workforce Development Plan for the Department. We also have revised and adopted our department-wide Quality Improvement Plan.

As always, we continue to collaborate with community partners including our Community Dental Initiative with private dentists in the community; our General Assistance pilot project with the Health 360 Clinic; and our ongoing collaboration with the Nebraska Pharmacists Association for safe disposal of prescription medication through the medication take back program.

Animal Control has launched its media campaign to increase pet licensing, protect pets from the heat, and promote our low cost pet spay and neuter grant.

The Food Safety Program received the prestigious Samuel J. Crumbine Award for Excellence in Food Protection. This award is given to only one local health department annually that has demonstrated unsurpassed achievement in providing outstanding food protection services to their community.

Thanks to the staff of the Health Department for their dedication, service, and commitment to the health of the citizens of Lincoln and Lancaster County.

Judith A. Halstead

Judith a Halstead

#### Mission

Protect and promote the public's health

#### Vision

A well-supported public health system serving all people to achieve optimal health

### Contact us

Lincoln-Lancaster County
Health Department
3140 N Street
Lincoln, NE 68510

(402) 441-8000

www.lincoln.ne.gov keyword: health